

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. A printing device comprising:
a roll-to roll printing press for forming a plurality of printed rolls; and
a separate assembly device, the assembly device having a plurality of roll
unwinding devices separate from the printing press, a first folder accepting at least
one first web from the roll unwinding devices and forming first signatures, and a
second folder accepting at least one second web from the roll unwinding devices and
forming second signatures.
2. The printing device as recited in claim 1 further including a roll storage unit
disposed between the printing press and the assembly device.
3. The printing device as recited in claim 1 wherein the printing press includes a
slitter for slitting the web into a plurality of ribbons, the ribbons being wound to form
the plurality of printed rolls.
4. The printing device as recited in claim 1 wherein the assembly device includes a
conveyor for collecting the first and second signatures.
5. The printing device as recited in claim 1 wherein the assembly device includes
more than four roll unwinding devices.
6. An assembly device for assembling printed rolls of material comprising:
a plurality of roll unwinding device;
a first folder accepting at least one first web from the roll unwinding devices
and forming first signatures; and
a second folder accepting at least one second web from the roll unwinding
devices and forming second signatures.
7. The assembly device as recited in claim 6 wherein the first folder includes a former
board.

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8. The assembly device as recited in claim 6 wherein the first folder includes a cutting device.
 9. The assembly device as recited in claim 6 wherein the first folder is a plow folder.
 10. The assembly device as recited in claim 6 further comprising a conveyor for collecting the first and second signatures.
 11. The assembly device as recited in claim 6 wherein the plurality of unwinding devices include at least five roll unwinding devices.
 12. A method for printing comprising the steps of:
 - printing a web of material so as to define a printed web;
 - winding the printed web onto at least one roll;
 - cutting the printed web so as to define at least one printed roll;
 - transporting the at least one printed roll to a folder separate from a printing press; and
 - processing the at least one printed roll in the folder into a finished printed product.
 13. The method as recited in claim 12 further comprising processing at least one other printed roll in a second folder so as to form second signatures, the finished product including the second signatures.
 14. The method as recited in claim 12 wherein the processing step includes folding and cutting the at least one printed roll.
 15. The method as recited in claim 12 wherein the processing step includes processing at least two printed rolls.

16. The method as recited in claim 12 further comprising storing the at least one printed roll in a roll storage unit before the transporting step.
17. The method as recited in claim 12 further comprising requisition of a printing supply according to a customer pre-order.
18. The method as recited in claim 12 further comprising identifying the at least one printed roll.
19. A method for printing comprising the steps of:
passing a web of material through a printing unit of a printing press so as to form a printed roll;
slitting the printed web by a slitter so as to form a plurality of ribbons; and
winding the ribbons into at least one roll.
20. The method as recited in claim 19 further comprising assembling printed products from the ribbons by folding and cutting the ribbons in an assembly device.
21. The method as recited in claim 19 further comprising requisition of a printing supply according to a customer pre-order.
22. The method as recited in claim 19 further comprising locating or attaching an identifier on or to a plurality of rolls of pre-printed material to sort the rolls of printed material.
23. The method as recited in claim 19 further comprising storing pre-printed material in a roll storage unit.
24. The method as recited in claim 19 further comprising moving the printed roll to an automated buffer for automated transfer to an assembly device.

~~25.~~ The method as recited in claim 19 wherein the at least one roll includes two rolls.

~~26.~~ The method as recited in claim 19 further comprising changing an image on a printing unit of the printing press during a printing operation and forming the at least one roll as a function of the image.

~~27.~~ A printing device comprising:

a roll-to-roll printing press for printing an image to a web so as to form at least one printed roll;

a roll storage unit for the at least one printed roll; and
a folder for folding and cutting the at least one printed roll, the folder being located separately from the printing press.

~~28.~~ The device as recited in claim 27 wherein the folder is located in a building separate from the printing press.

~~29.~~ The device as recited in claim 27 wherein the printing press includes a slitting device.

~~30.~~ A method for printing comprising the steps of:

printing a web of material so as to define a printed web;
winding the printed web onto at least one roll;
cutting the printed web so as to define at least one printed roll;
transporting the at least two printed rolls to unwinding devices of an assembly device; and
processing the at least two printed rolls in an assembly device.